



MARKSMAN

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 am Combined Service
both on-site and online on
our YouTube channel
[StMarksLutheranChurch](#)
[WashingtonIllinois](#).

Nursery provided.

10:30 am Fellowship Hour
with coffee and donuts.

10:45 am Sunday School
Pre-school through 12th

11:00 am Adult Bible Study

CONTACT US

Office hours

M-Th 8:30-4:30, F 8:30-3:00

Phone 309.444.4618

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ChildCare & Preschool
309.444.4686

200 S. Main Street
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FROM THE PASTOR

Wow! Six months! While this interim/bridge time has brought challenges I wasn't expecting, I am so grateful for the leading of the Spirit that brought me back to St. Mark's after fifty years.

I am so grateful for the time I've had to be close to my parents. Thank you!

I am grateful for you and your partnership in the gospel. St. Mark's has a gifted and dedicated staff and Council committed to sharing the grace of God in Jesus Christ. St. Mark's has gifts of hospitality and generosity. **THANK YOU** for the wonderful farewell brunch, the tulips of new life and hope, the cards and gifts, and the treasure of a volume of the St. John's Bible!

I am grateful for the opportunity to reconnect with the role St. Mark's played in my faith journey. One image that has remained with me from childhood is the altar wood carving of the Road to Emmaus in Luke, chapter 24. I can think of no more powerful image and story for how the Risen Christ meets us on the road, listens to our joys and concerns, feeds us with his presence such that hope overcomes despair, love conquers hate, and a way appears out of no way. Last fall we prayed in worship: *God, you point the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Show us the path that leads to life. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy.* As you journey into the next chapter of St. Marks with Pastor Scott, I pray that you may journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Peace,
Pastor Kendra



WEDNESDAY MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

March 1 – 29

5:30 pm – Dinner in the Family Life Center

6:30 pm – Worship in the Sanctuary

7:00 pm – Adult Bible Study in the Conf. Room

Confirmation in the Youth Lounge

Cross Trainers in Beckwith Hall

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEALS FOR LENT

March 1: Pancake and Sausage Supper

Provided by Memorials and Property Teams

March 8: Taco Bar

Provided by Evangelism, Finance, Health,
Mission Teams

March 15: Pizza, Salad, Cookies

Provided by Stewardship, Executive, Teams &
Children/Family Ministry

March 22: Pulled Pork

Provided by Fellowship, Worship/Music Teams,
Childcare Board & Youth Ministry

March 29: Lasagna Dinner

Provided by WELCA

WELCOME

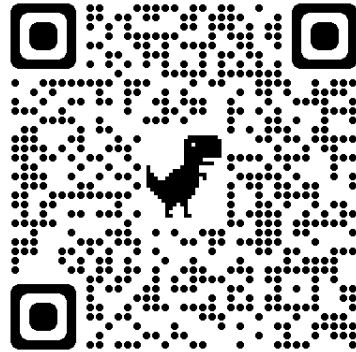
Pastor Scott will be here soon!

Our new Senior Pastor is looking forward to leading his first worship service for St. Mark's on March 5th. We hope to have a great turnout to welcome him.

The Bacons will be moving to their new house here in Washington a few days before. Please scan the QR code to volunteer some help with their move.

Helping Hands for the Bacon Family

If you are available to help the Bacon's with their move to Washington, we are looking for people to help with unboxing, sorting, and cleaning.



BIBLE STUDY

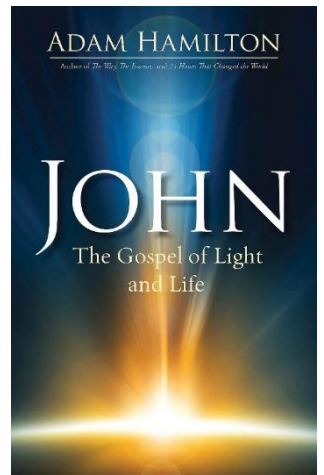
LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Evenings
March 1 – March 29, 2023
7:00 – 8:00 pm

Come join us as we study Adam Hamilton's *John The Gospel of Light and Life* for Lent. Pastor Scott will lead this study in the conference room (Cindy Calvert will be leading March 1, 2023).

If you would like to attend this study please use the signup sheet on the Welcome Kiosk in the Gathering Space or call the church office at 309-444-4618.

The books will be available for purchase (\$15.00) on March 1.



NURSES CORNER

GRIEF SHARE

Grief Share will be offered for thirteen weeks beginning Tuesday, May 9, 2023. More information to come.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

I will be providing blood pressure screenings in the Gathering Space during fellowship hour on the following dates:

March 26 & April 9

~ Mary Hills
Parish Nurse



CHILDCARE & PRESCHOOL

Our hallway project is inching to the finish line! The sprinklers for the hallway by our boiler room were installed in February. We're very excited to have one more step taken in this long process. We would also like to thank the parishioners and teams in the church for their dedication and support in getting our childcare center up to code. Lately, we've seen a lot of the property team in and out looking for more ways to improve both the church and the childcare.

Childcare was closed during the flooding over Christmas, but our wonderful board members were able to save many of our teachers' things by acting quickly to move equipment and set up fans to dry our space. We are so grateful to have such a caring church over us.



February is the month of love. During this month, our children were able to make valentines for the homebound valentines and learn about showing love and kindness to others. We also started something new this year by having a stuffed animal drive for our OCC packing parties in the fall. This is a way to provide higher quality stuffed animals in our boxes as well as teach our children about doing good and sharing with others, as Hebrews 11:16 tells us to do. We plan on carrying those values over into March with a Threads, Hope, and Love donation drive in correspondence with spring cleaning.

We're looking forward to spring and warmer weather and going back outside to play regularly. We are also looking forward to celebrating the ultimate love and sacrifice of Christ during this upcoming Easter season.

~ Ellie Gramm and Amanda Stuart
Childcare and Preschool Directors

CHILDREN & FAMILY

February – On Sunday, February 12, 2023, Pastor Kendra hosted a bible Sunday school class with the second and third graders along with their parents. This gave the youth and their parents an opportunity to explore the bible together.

On Sunday, February 19, 2023, the second and third graders were presented with their bibles



during Worship. This event showcased the love and compassion that St. Mark's has for the youth and their parents. We were excited to see parents engaging with their children and just as excited as them to receive their bible.

March – First Communion for the fifth-grade children of St. Mark's will take place on March 18 and March 19, 2023. On the 18th, children will attend a class with Pastor Scott Bacon & Director of Children & Family Ministry, Shannon Boynton, to decorate their first communion banners and learn more about the sacrament. On the 19th, the children will receive first communion! We are looking forward to this blessed event.



April – God's Global Barnyard is back again! During the month of April, the youth will help our Director of Children & Family Ministry decide what animals to purchase for people in impoverished areas. This initiative is to help children understand the importance of giving and helping others!

Palm Parade on Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023! Sunday School children aged three through sixth grade will be given palm branches to wave and parade through the sanctuary during worship service!

~ Shannon Boynton

Director of Children and Family Ministries

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

QUAKE 2022!

High school and middle school youth had an amazing time at Quake in the Wisconsin Dells! The youth experienced amazing worship, life-changing preaching, meaningful workshops, fun and games in workshops and in the waterparks, and the building of friendships that will last a lifetime. The youth are so appreciative of all of

the support that they received from our St. Mark's family and can't wait to go again next year! I am very thankful for the help and support of our chaperones: Mike Griffith, Shannon Boynton, Abby Swanson, and driver Mary Hills!



CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE DURING LENT

5:30- Meal
6:30 Worship
7:00 Confirmation

March 1 – Confirmation “The Neighbor”

March 8 – Confirmation “Grace”

March 15 – Confirmation “The Word”

March 22 – Confirmation “Bondage of the Will”

March 29 – Confirmation “Two Kingdoms”

April 5 – No Confirmation - Holy Week

NORMAL CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

6:30 – 8:00 pm

April 12 – Confirmation “Vocation” (7pm-8pm)

April 19 – Confirmation “Worship” (7pm-8pm)

April 26 – Confirmation “Doubt” (7pm-8pm)

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

March 12 – Nerf Gun Battle @ St. Mark’s!
(5:00 – 7:00 pm)

Students in 7-12 grades are invited to join us as we take over the church for an epic showdown!

An epic Nerf war where we'll play games like Humans vs. Zombies, Team Death Match, Capture the Flag and more!

Where: St. Mark's Lutheran Church Family Life Center

What to Bring: Your most trusted Nerf guns and darts (we will have extras available if you don't have one) and goggles for safety. Pizza will be provided



March 19 – Youth Group with games, pizza, and Bible study (5:30pm-7pm) *7-12 Grade*

April 16 – Elevate Trampoline Park in East Peoria (4:00 – 6:00 pm)



What: Students in 7-12 grade are invited to join us for an evening of fun at Elevate Trampoline Park in East Peoria. The church will be covering the entrance fee but snacks will be up to the individual.

(Parents drop off at 4pm and pick up at 6pm)

April 30 – Youth Group with games, pizza, and Bible study (5:30pm-7pm) *7-12 Grade*

SUMMER MISSION TRIP!

JULY 5 – 8

It's that time again! We are in the beginning stages of planning a summer mission trip for our youth in grades 7-12.

This year, we have decided to head to the Quad Cities with YouthWorks! During this trip, we will have the opportunity to serve the Quad Cities by assisting with local youth programming, engaging with adults who have disabilities, and meeting basic needs through food pantries, community gardens, and clothing giveaways. I will be sending more information out to you.



We will be having an interest meeting on March 19 in the sanctuary at 10:30.

~ Jeremy Lafary

Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WHIP Collections

In March, we are collecting canned fruit and applesauce. The April collection is cereal.

Please note: WHIP cannot accept expired food.

St. Mark's donated 192 items in January. WHIP served 272 families and registered 12 new families. WHIP is serving more families who are saying their Ameren bills and the reduced Snap card amounts are affecting their budgets.

Thank you for helping serve our 61571 neighbors and friends!

Change for Charity

The March 26th recipient for Change for Charity is St. Mark's Cares. This is a benevolence for St. Mark's to distribute through the Parish Nurse Program.

On April 23rd, the Change for Charity recipient is Heller Center for Kids with Cancer. Their programs provide patients and families with the critical, non-medical tools that best support them through and beyond their cancer journey.

Kitchen Cleaning on April 24

The next kitchen cleaning in the Family Life Center is Monday, April 24th at 9:00 a.m. Any help you can provide is appreciated.

Piece and Comfort Quilters Group

Piece and Comfort Quilters group can always use donations of fabrics to make the quilts and clean, gently used sheets for the backing. If you can help with donations, please contact Linda Keys at 309-472-2483 or drop off in the Beckwith Hall donation center in the cabinets to the left of the counter area. Peace and Comfort quilters group meets at Church on the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in Room LL-29, and you are welcome to join in. No sewing experience is necessary. Also needed

are ladies to work at home sewing tops. Linda can meet with you and show you how to make the tops. Bundles are made up, so all that's needed is to sew them into a top.

Lutheran Hillside Village Cookie Walk

Many thanks to St. Mark's members who donated homemade baked goods for the December Cookie Walk at Lutheran Hillside Village. They raised \$3,009.25 for the LHV Benevolent Fund for residents that have outlived their resources. The next Bake Sale at LHV is May 12th.

Donations for the Church Mouse

Are you looking for somewhere to donate clothes, coats, shoes, toys, kitchen supplies, etc.? Please consider the Church Mouse, located at 600 W. Main St. in Peoria. Donations are accepted Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Questions? Call (309) 673-2363. Proceeds from Church Mouse sales are split between Lutheran Social Services of IL and Lutheran Hillside Village.

~ Linda Wetzel and Pam Ripley

There is a time for everything and a season for every activity...a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away...Ecclesiastes 3:1,6

KINDRED SPIRIT SISTERS

The March outing for Kindred Spirit Sisters will be March 12, 11:30 am at Mariachi Restaurant 1964 Freedom Parkway, near Walmart in Washington.

The April outing will be changed from the second Sunday of the month to the third Sunday (April 15) of the month because of Easter. We will be meeting at Pizza Ranch in Morton at 11:30 am.

Kindred Spirit Sisters is a group for widowed or single women that meet at different restaurants the second Sunday of the month for friendship and fellowship.

Please be sure to call either Kathleen Peters at 309-444-2360 or Sue Madden at 309-444-3096 prior to each luncheon for an accurate reservation count.

New attendees are always welcome at the luncheons! ~ Nancy Sizemore

MEMORIAL TEAM

THANK YOU

St. Mark's Memorial Team recently outfitted the conference room with a tech table, credenza, and 16 task chairs. The team wishes to extend its gratitude and thanks to the families of the following loved ones who have recently passed on to the Church Triumphant for designating the church as a memorial recipient:

Tom Beamer
Dick Benson
Ron Branson
Eugene Crumrine
Vernon Esch
Bill Hexamer
Bev Johnson
Bob Lange
Marilyn McCoy
Doris Schwarzentraub
Judy Seibert
Mike Strode
Phyllis Wiechmann

Those memorials along with a Mission Endowment Fund grant were a wonderful blessing to St. Mark's which will make gathering in the conference room a more purposeful and comfortable experience. The Memorial Team's mission is to work with St. Mark's ministry teams and family members to select projects and items that will enhance the building, property, and service of our Lord.

FELLOWSHIP

There will be a NCAA men's basketball tournament challenge coming in March, with more information to come.



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone that worked on this bag of treats and cards!! What a surprise! Brightened my day when I saw who sent the cards! I will miss St. MARK'S SO much. ~Deb McCoy

I want to thank everyone at St. Mark's who put a card, some chocolate or a little gift in the Valentine Bag. It was a great surprise to open the door and find a Valentine Delivery Cupid (Bill Porterfield) with a treat bag from the people at St. Mark's.

♥ to you all and God Bless St. Mark's and the loving people who go there. ~Cookie Marshall

Dear St. Mark's Family,
Just wanted to thank you all for the Valentines. It was unexpected by very appreciated The candy was yummy and the cards thoughtful. God Bless You All ~Calvin & Dian Burroughs

To St. Mark's Children,
What a wonderful surprise to open my door and
find the bag of cards and treats on Valentines
Day! Thank you all so much for thinking of me.
God Bless each and every one of you!

~Karen Hett

Huge Thank You to all my St. Mark's Friends
who put together the amazing Valentine
Surprise Bag that was delivered to me!

Thank you for your thoughtfulness.

~Virginnia Hexamer

I want to thank all who helped fill the Valentine
bag. I enjoyed reading all the messages and
eating all the sweets!

Blessings ~ Jeanette Burroughs

I just want to thank everyone who made cards,
and gave treats for the Valentine Bags that were
delivered to our homebound members. Thank
you for the kindness you have shown to them.

A big thank you also to the volunteers who
delivered the bags. Our homebound brothers
and sisters felt the love from our congregation.

Thank you all so much. ~Mary Hills



SPECIAL DATES

BIRTHDAY'S 80 PLUS YEARS

MARCH

3-10	Jerry Gegel
3-12	Lucille Lambert-Bossinger
3-14	Don Mitchell
3-20	Kay Bernstein
3-20	Elmer Armstrong
3-24	Nancy Sizemore
3-25	Janet Winkler
3-27	Kay Huber

APRIL

4-7	Joan Benson
4-16	Ken Holford
4-18	Dorothy Boatright

ANNIVERSARIES 50 PLUS YEARS

MARCH

3-02	Joe & Carol Madden
3-16	Everett & Sue Freeberg
3-31	Don & Linda Mitchell

APRIL

4-20	Ken & Mary Jo Holford
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DREAM CENTER OF PEORIA

IT'S COMING!

The food truck sponsored by St. Mark's will be at
the church on March 12, 2023.

Time of showing will be in the bulletin
and The Buzz.

LUTHERAN WOMEN OF GREATER PEORIA

LWGP Easter Parade Style Show and Tea

The Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria present the fifth "Easter Parade" Style Show and Tea at 2 pm on Saturday, March 25 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1427 W. Lake Ave. Peoria. Models will show off some of the delightful spring styles available at The Church Mouse while everyone enjoys coffee, flavored teas, and "English Tea Room" type desserts. Pastor Michael Jones and Don Bauer from St. John Lutheran in Bartonville will provide background piano music and accompany the singers and models. Pastor Lisa Dietrich from St. Paul in Peoria will be our Master of Ceremonies. Door prizes, raffles, items from the Church Mouse for sale and more will round out the afternoon.

Tickets will once again be \$10, \$5 for children under 12. Call 309-697-5762 or 309-360-8734, or your LWGP delegate for reservations. You can pay in advance or at the door. Groups can reserve tables together on a first come first serve basis.

Proceeds go to Lutheran Social services of Illinois Children's Programs.

If you'd like to model call 309-697-5762.

EASTER

EASTER LILIES!

Help us decorate the church by sponsoring an Easter Lily. The cost is \$25.



Look for more information in upcoming bulletins.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

April 2

Palm/Passion Sunday
9:30 a.m. Worship Service

April 6

Maundy Thursday
7:00 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion

April 7

Good Friday
7:00 p.m. Worship Service

April 9

Easter Sunday
8:30 a.m. – Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
(provided by the youth)
11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

ALTER FLOWERS

ALTAR FLOWERS SPONSORS

Our Altar Flower Chart is filling up quickly!

Remaining dates available are:

April 16 & 30

May 7

July 2, 9 & 30

August 6 & 20

September 3 & 10

October 1

November 26

December 24 & 31

If you would like to sign up to sponsor the Altar Flower you may write your name on the flower chart in Beckwith Hall or emailing the church office at office@stmarkswashington.org or by calling 309-444-4618

DEAD LINES

MARKSMAN DEADLINES

Have an article or event you would like to share in an upcoming Marksman? The deadlines for 2023 are as follows:

April 14 (for May & June MM)

June 16 (for July & August MM)

August 18 (for September & October MM)

October 20 (for November & December MM)

The Marksman is produced bimonthly.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

*DON'T FORGET
TO SPRING AHEAD
MARCH 12!*